(No. 35) -- The Real Ripoff in the Humane Movement

Humane Information Services, Inc.
Last in a series of four articles
Since the third in our series of articles,
reports appeared in the December 1975, issue of Report to Hu-
manitarians, newspapers and periodicals of large circulation,
and a national television
network, have carried articles and sto-
ries about another national humane soci-
ety. This society is said to have taken in,
mostly through advertise-
ments, going on a million dol-
ars in 1974, of which it is alleged that one hun-
dred thousand went to its
founder and chief officer in
the form of salary, commis-
sions, and expense accounts of
one kind or another. The re-
mainder was mostly used, al-
legedly, for the organization's over-
head expenses and for additional advertis-
ing to obtain still more members and con-
tributors. It is hard to believe the report
was, it implied, was used in actually help-
problems and ways of dealing with them.
Societies did this by publishing attractive
ticles about charitable ripoffs appeared in suffering. In fact, effectively dealing
with genuine efforts to reduce ani-
mal suffering became more emotional than accu-
rate. As a result, the programs supposedly aimed
at eliminating animal suffering became
one of the society's efforts devot-
to gaining new members and increasing con-
tribution, since humane societies
preferred that a good
home could be found for every dog or cat
except those diseased or injured. Animal lovers even (still support)
the spending of scarce humane funds for
veterinary treatment of badly injured
stray animals, the while millions of per-
fectly healthy animals were "put to sleep" in the decomposition or gas cham-
bags of the societies. So, the soci-
eties kept their members from knowing just went on behind the "No Admittance" signs on the "euthanasia" room doors, and did little to try to investigate or to the large proportion of animals received that had to be destroyed. This cover-up, dictated by the desire to avoid losing contributors, had such a strong effect that many
to deal effectively with the pet population explo-
sion. If the societies adopted realistic pol-
cies designed to actually get results in
dealing with this and other humane prob-
lems, they would have encountered strident
opposition from over-emotional and poorly-
derived members and contributors. So, they carried on as before, "in the boot." As a result, the programs supposedly aimed at eliminating animal suffering became more and more elaborate and complex to take in more contributions.

FUND-RAISING PRACTICES
This modus operandi is to devote much or most of the activities of the society to gaining new members and increasing contri-
butions. For many years humane soci-
eties did this by publishing attractive periodical with cute pictures and stories about animals. It had little to do with genuine efforts to reduce ani-
mal suffering. Other fund-raising efforts encompassed free newspaper and TV publici-
ty, direct mail, in-person appeals, and "meas-
gles" which generated more emotion than accom-
plishment for the animals, characterized by high-pressure sales tactics which have forgotten as soon as personnel returned to head quarters. Most successful of all were the so-called appeals to "fat cat" contribu-
tors who knew little about actual humane problems and ways of dealing with them, but who were lured by ludicrous applica-
tions of sentiment and salesmanship.

All of this was and is a necessary part of humane work, since humane societies cannot operate without funds. It would be foolish to criticize the societies for making fund raising a prominent part of their
THE VICIOUS CIRCLE
But the societies found themselves caught in a vicious circle:
(1) The need for operating funds re-
courages contributions.
For example, euthanasia was for long a taboo subject. The members of humane societies preferred it so that a good
home could be found for every dog or cat except those diseased or injured. Animal lovers even (still support) the spending of scarce humane funds for veterinary treatment of badly injured stray animals, the while millions of per-
fectly healthy animals were "put to sleep" in the decomposition or gas chambers of the societies. So, the soci-
eties kept their members from knowing just went on behind the "No Admittance" signs on the "euthanasia" room doors, and did little to try to investigate or to the large proportion of animals received that had to be destroyed. This cover-up, dictated by the desire to avoid losing contributors, had such a strong effect that many
to deal effectively with the pet population explo-
sion. If the societies adopted realistic pol-
cies designed to actually get results in
dealing with this and other humane prob-
lems, they would have encountered strident
opposition from over-emotional and poorly-
derived members and contributors. So, they carried on as before, "in the boot." As a result, the programs supposedly aimed at eliminating animal suffering became more and more elaborate and complex to take in more contributions.

(3) The circle became even more "vi-
cious" because all of this hype-believe
work for the animals required money for
staff and expenses. As the organization grew in size, the budget also grew. This in turn forced the society to raise funds, with consequently a greater proportion of the society's efforts devot-
ed to what are, in fact, just gimmick fund-
raising activities and a lesser proportion
to real animal welfare work.

(4) Worst of all, the society that
encourages contributions.
For example, euthanasia was for long a taboo subject. The members of humane societies preferred it so that a good
home could be found for every dog or cat except those diseased or injured. Animal lovers even (still support) the spending of scarce humane funds for veterinary treatment of badly injured stray animals, the while millions of per-
fectly healthy animals were "put to sleep" in the decomposition or gas chambers of the societies. So, the soci-
eties kept their members from knowing just went on behind the "No Admittance" signs on the "euthanasia" room doors, and did little to try to investigate or to the large proportion of animals received that had to be destroyed. This cover-up, dictated by the desire to avoid losing contributors, had such a strong effect that many
to deal effectively with the pet population explo-
sion. If the societies adopted realistic pol-
cies designed to actually get results in
dealing with this and other humane prob-
lems, they would have encountered strident
opposition from over-emotional and poorly-
derived members and contributors. So, they carried on as before, "in the boot." As a result, the programs supposedly aimed at eliminating animal suffering became more and more elaborate and complex to take in more contributions.

(3) The circle became even more "vi-
cious" because all of this hype-believe
work for the animals required money for
staff and expenses. As the organization grew in size, the budget also grew. This in turn forced the society to raise funds, with consequently a greater proportion of the society's efforts devot-
ed to what are, in fact, just gimmick fund-
raising activities and a lesser proportion
to real animal welfare work.

(4) Worst of all, the society that
encourages contributions.
For example, euthanasia was for long a taboo subject. The members of humane societies preferred it so that a good
home could be found for every dog or cat except those diseased or injured. Animal lovers even (still support) the spending of scarce humane funds for veterinary treatment of badly injured stray animals, the while millions of per-
fectly healthy animals were "put to sleep" in the decomposition or gas chambers of the societies. So, the soci-
eties kept their members from knowing just went on behind the "No Admittance" signs on the "euthanasia" room doors, and did little to try to investigate or to the large proportion of animals received that had to be destroyed. This cover-up, dictated by the desire to avoid losing contributors, had such a strong effect that many
to deal effectively with the pet population explo-
sion. If the societies adopted realistic pol-
cies designed to actually get results in
dealing with this and other humane prob-
lems, they would have encountered strident
opposition from over-emotional and poorly-
derived members and contributors. So, they carried on as before, "in the boot." As a result, the programs supposedly aimed at eliminating animal suffering became more and more elaborate and complex to take in more contributions.

The first of these devices
was hard-sell direct-mail cam-
paigns. Engineered by master
merchandisers drawn from the ranks of the advertising pro-
ession, mail-order experts and public rela-
tions (PR) psychologists, these cam-
paigns were as coldly laid out to take in
the public as the sales gimmicks of book, magazine and cosmetic peddlers. Some of the contributions received went to fund legitimate charitable activities, but a large part frequently was sniffed off to pay the salaries, commissions and ex-
enses of the fund raisers. But these
campaigns efforts were so effec-
tive that even legitimate charities were forsook to the pressure of competition to adopt them.

ADVERTISING
As the costs of direct-mail fund-rais-
ing campaigns went up, their relative ef-
fectiveness was against the increased competition among charities for the available dollars. So another gimmick came into play--advertising.

A thousand-dollar advertisement in The New York Times or Christian Science Moni-
tor would reach many more people than the same amount spent in a direct mailing. But would it bring in as much money? That depended, in part, on the kind of appeal carried by the advertisement. Generally speaking, the more phony the appeal the more effective it is. The object is to give the im-
pression that the contributions received
will serve to end or greatly ameliorate the condition described in the ad, which actually may be one of long standing with no real hope of a solution by any humane program contemplated by the society doing the advertising.

The early-bird humane society advertis-
ers encountered little or no competition in the media from similar ads of other hu-
mane organizations, a situation that will not prevail for long if the use of this fund-raising device continues to expand rapidly.

Few things carry more emotional appeal
(See RIFFOFF, page 2, column 1)
RIPOFF - FROM PAGE 1

than a picture of a dog with a woebegone expression looking through the bars of a cage accompanied by the sentimental tale of neglect and abuse of man's best friend. Or a photograph of a bunny rabbit in a trap (this particular picture, which has been circulating among humane society publications for so many years that its origin has become lost in antiquity, recently appeared in the advertisements of a large society and apparently generated many contributions).

Some humane societies have skillfully employed the devices of the advertising and PR people, raising amounts of money through the continued bequests of a relatively small number of affluent members. Such bequests, and the endowment funds they engendered, are still the mainstay of a number of well-known societies. The existence of these large endowment funds has allowed the societies having them "fat and lazy." The officers and staffs, their salaries more or less assured, have been able to neglect the challenging problems prescribed by the needs of the budget. As the size, prestige and financial affluence of the society grew, one of its chief objectives became the preservation of the status quo. Above all, don't rock the boat. It was we believe, by the HSUS.

Nevertheless, the latter policy entails difficulties and important humane problems. The raid arouses the indignation of the general public which have served to attract national publicity for the national news services and national publications like the Enquirer, that send the next big scoop. The value of personal contacts be used to gain national publicity for spectacular but ineffective "investigative" activities, with photographs, about rescuing a cat from a high tree, but almost never about the serious problems involving the most difficult planning and execution, and unimportant opposition. Thus, the local society shelters' news releases become full of poetic descriptive statistics, with pictures, about a spectacular raid on a cockfight, colorful cage, accompanied by a sentimental tale of neglect and abuse of man's best friend.

...and PR people, raising amounts of money through the continued bequests of a relatively small number of affluent members. Such bequests, and the endowment funds they engendered, are still the mainstay of a number of well-known societies. The existence of these large endowment funds has allowed the societies having them "fat and lazy." The officers and staffs, their salaries more or less assured, have been able to neglect the challenging problems prescribed by the needs of the budget. As the size, prestige and financial affluence of the society grew, one of its chief objectives became the preservation of the status quo. Above all, don't rock the boat. It was we believe, by the HSUS.

...and PR people, raising amounts of money through the continued bequests of a relatively small number of affluent members. Such bequests, and the endowment funds they engendered, are still the mainstay of a number of well-known societies. The existence of these large endowment funds has allowed the societies having them "fat and lazy." The officers and staffs, their salaries more or less assured, have been able to neglect the challenging problems prescribed by the needs of the budget. As the size, prestige and financial affluence of the society grew, one of its chief objectives became the preservation of the status quo. Above all, don't rock the boat. It was we believe, by the HSUS.

...and PR people, raising amounts of money through the continued bequests of a relatively small number of affluent members. Such bequests, and the endowment funds they engendered, are still the mainstay of a number of well-known societies. The existence of these large endowment funds has allowed the societies having them "fat and lazy." The officers and staffs, their salaries more or less assured, have been able to neglect the challenging problems prescribed by the needs of the budget. As the size, prestige and financial affluence of the society grew, one of its chief objectives became the preservation of the status quo. Above all, don't rock the boat. It was we believe, by the HSUS.

...and PR people, raising amounts of money through the continued bequests of a relatively small number of affluent members. Such bequests, and the endowment funds they engendered, are still the mainstay of a number of well-known societies. The existence of these large endowment funds has allowed the societies having them "fat and lazy." The officers and staffs, their salaries more or less assured, have been able to neglect the challenging problems prescribed by the needs of the budget. As the size, prestige and financial affluence of the society grew, one of its chief objectives became the preservation of the status quo. Above all, don't rock the boat. It was we believe, by the HSUS.

...and PR people, raising amounts of money through the continued bequests of a relatively small number of affluent members. Such bequests, and the endowment funds they engendered, are still the mainstay of a number of well-known societies. The existence of these large endowment funds has allowed the societies having them "fat and lazy." The officers and staffs, their salaries more or less assured, have been able to neglect the challenging problems prescribed by the needs of the budget. As the size, prestige and financial affluence of the society grew, one of its chief objectives became the preservation of the status quo. Above all, don't rock the boat. It was we believe, by the HSUS.

...and PR people, raising amounts of money through the continued bequests of a relatively small number of affluent members. Such bequests, and the endowment funds they engendered, are still the mainstay of a number of well-known societies. The existence of these large endowment funds has allowed the societies having them "fat and lazy." The officers and staffs, their salaries more or less assured, have been able to neglect the challenging problems prescribed by the needs of the budget. As the size, prestige and financial affluence of the society grew, one of its chief objectives became the preservation of the status quo. Above all, don't rock the boat. It was we believe, by the HSUS.
H.I.S. Operating Statement for 1975

Income

Regular Dues and Contributions $11,910.11
Non-Refunding Contributions 27,744.28
(Special Gifts, Bequests, Interests) 1,967.51
Total Income $41,623.90

Expenses

Wages and Salaries $7,132.18
Travel Expense 713.87
Automobile Expense 539.80
Building Expense 730.64
Office Supplies 442.42
Postage and Couriers 1,593.80
Printed Publications 1,689.55
Loss on Foreign Exchange 0.12
Depreciation of Buildings 1,492.88
Depreciation of Equipment 1,028.68
Equipment Maintenance 157.04
Insurance 1,784.00
Utilities 746.30

Miscellaneous Expenses 551.62
Total Expenses 23,864.58
Increase in Net Worth $17,777.40

Total Income $41,623.90

Humeane Information Services is one of the few national humane societies to publicly disclose its financial statement. Each year's statement doesn't take a CPA (see that HIS, at least, is no ripoff! It con­ ducts a comprehensive national humane pro­ gram that is not only more important than most local humane societies incur for operation of a single shelter.

1. Operations are wholesale, not retail. We operate no shelter, and do not engage in the various kinds of activity which could be the situation of local humane organizations. Our resources would soon be dissipated if we attempted to conduct local surveillance of and raids on dog dealers, cockfights, zoos, dog meat dealers, and individual cruelty cases. And no signif­ icant impact on such activities na­ tionally could be achieved. Some problems are local, some national. We deal directly with the former only when the situation is a part of some na­ tional condition which we are attempting to change. We advise local societies and individual humanitarians on request and within our limited resources. Thrift­ ury received for such help already are beyond our financial ability to meet them. Because of some unusual business trans­ actions during 1975, the operating state­ ment requires some explanation in order to be understood.

1. The "non-refunding" contributions listed under "Income" include a donation of $20,000.00 made by the former owner of our new office building which it was pre­ owned during the year, plus a substantial donation by Doc which was necessary in or­ der for us to complete the transaction. We now have an office which will care for our needs indefinitely, at a much lower acquisition cost than would have been re­ quired to purchase the land and build. We no longer have to stand on our heads in a cramped space when getting out Ripoff do­ cuments to be rolled on work which on which we do ourselves, rather than farming it out to computerized mailing firms. And there were unreasonably high charges in staff in now defi­ nitely in view.

(2) The amount of interest shown under "Increase in Net Worth" is that which had been set aside for purchase of a new office, and as a contingency fund to insure continuity of operations. Our society does not operate to such a hand-to-mouth basis to-day, but under a conservative financial program which makes it possible to plan for the future in a given way. Any staff addi­ tion or other major expenditure must be funded for not only the next pay peri­ od but for years to come. All of this financial planning makes it possi­ ble to avoid jumping around from one thing to another on a continually contributions rise or fall. Continuous contributions not only makes our work more efficient, but also assures those who contemplate bequests to Humane Information Services that when the money is received we will be in a position to use it to good advantage for the ani­ mals.

(3) The ridiculously low amount for salaries and wages should not be taken as the probability that our volunteers will not work, because of our use of volunteers. On a competitive salary basis, under which most national humane societies must operate, the figures required to hire additional staff would be many times the figure shown. Lest any poten­ tial legislator be alarmed that if Doc should become incapacitated his organization would be endangered by a sudden large increase in salaries beyond the capacity of our budget, please be assured that Doc has made ample provisions for funding a capa­ ble replacement, out of his own financial resources. The continuity of his opera­ tions is assured.

(4) The item for real estate taxes re­ flects taxes paid on the new office build­ ing. We have made application for real estate tax exemptions; if granted for 1976, the same as we have had on our for­ mer office.

(5) A line for "Utilities" includes telephone, water, sewer, trash collection, electricity and heating oil (yes, even in the summer which is necessary). We do not have a listed business phone because of the much greater expense. You can reach us in the day at Emi's number, 813-867-5242, or that evening at Doc's number, 813-867-5242.

(6) The item for "Depreciation of Buildings" reflects the proper practice, although we hope to avoid this by keeping the property in good shape (ordin­ ances require minor improvements contained in the item "Building Expense").

Our old office building, which cost us $20,000.00, represents for us a useful resource purchase. It does not mean that we made much above expenses during the year, and we are not sure if we will for a long time to come, or for our humane work. These donations will not recur in 1976. Actually, the regular re­ curring expenses of the society specified was $18,000.00, as shown by the "To­ tal Expenses" figure on next-to-the-last line of the operating statement. This was not increased by the $20,000.00 from dues and contributions, as shown un­ der income. Of course, we could not con­ tinue to operate indefinitely on an operating deficit, but our financial planning is based on a realistic appraisal of the limits of our financial capital and cash flow in the near several years. So please do not think we are on the way to bankruptcy because of this operating deficit. It's a realistic appraisal from our members not just to avoid future deficits, but to make it possible to em­ ploy very much-needed additional staff to better serve those who request help from us and to extend our vital programs to every dog. Do not hesitate to do better serve these animals, and that is no mere rhetorical statement.

There are by far the greatest sources of cruelty to and suffering by animals in this country. Others may well decide to give greater priority to other categories of animals. This is based on the inconvenient fact that they feel a greater emotional kinship to these animals. HIS does, too, and we do not preclude other such animals. But we establish priorities, if they are frankly recognized as based on sentiment rather than reason, for dealing with these problems, by discussing how to maximize the reduction of animal suffering.

A HUNDRED YEARS OF NON-ACCOMPLISHMENT

The humane movement is over a hundred years old. There is a history of perhaps one thousand humane societies in this country. Many hundreds of millions of dollars have been spent in the name of animals. One might reasonably expect that we would be able to report substantial progress in some way, and that we indeed would make some categories of cruelty to animals. Alas, we cannot. As a matter of fact, we have learned to our sorrow that the tide of cruelty to these animals.

This failure reflects primarily five reasons: the human population and affluence which has led to increased production and consumption of food and fur animals, expanded resources available for the technological and medical support of pet animals, and more supportive habitats for vermin; (2) the spectacular develop­ ment of technology, such as factory farm­ ing methods and drug manufacturing; (3) the reluctance of humane societies to con­ duct research for dealing with these humane problems, which is traceable
to the much higher priority given to activities which help more in fund raising;
(4) the phenomenal ineptitude of the programs initiated to deal with these problems, which may be summed up in great part to the almost complete failure to engage in long-term planning and to establish personnel needed, a subject which will be explored in depth in a future Report to Humanitarians.

10. The recent failure of the humane movement to stop fighting for contributions long enough to present a reasonably united front in dealing with the problems of this nature, in acquire legislation, and to coordinate their non-legislative efforts.

The few somewhat sensationalist speculations of "big business" for its sins of omission and commission, but at least it has learned how to use the machinery of agitation and produce material results. But if one reads the publications of humane societies, they sound remarkably like those of their predecessors.

They are still filled with the same old stuff about "man's best friend," how we need to be more responsible, how the society to include animal abusers' effects on public opinion, and how animal abusers of the same kind as the society's, shelter, pence to the destroyed animal friends, and a host of other trivial in the public interest. Publications of the national societies, with few exceptions, are filled with materials of no higher intellectual level.

FOOD ANIMALS

Except for the articles in Report to Humanitarians and of the International Council of the National Association for Humane Legislation, and publications of the Federation Humane Slaughter Association, the literature about livestock Protection about the embryonic development of the conveyor system for processed meat animals is limited to the United States, and may be offered to any constructive programs in this category adapted to conditions here.

Besides the now famous Animal Machines, and her name on the program were expected to a battle plan and propaganda, and satisfy the conferences who knew even less about fasting in the United States. But why all the war stories about these machines? What does it have to do with the current subject? Because the societies have almost nothing on their staff capable of dealing with this subject.

The plain fact of the matter is that national societies in this country, with the exception of Humane Information Services, have not employed animals slaughered by the Council for Livestock Protection, have no programs whatever leading to accomplishment of these programs, and have not employed animals in laboratories to travel the whole way to this country, although they could be hardly expected to have this information. Because the Council for Livestock Protection has received no financial grants from the United States, or to be able to offer any constructive programs in this category adapted to conditions here. But the publications of the Federation Humane Slaughter Association, and her name on the program were expected to a battle plan and propaganda, and satisfy the conferences who knew even less about fasting in the United States. But why all the war stories about these machines? What does it have to do with the current subject? Because the societies have almost nothing on their staff capable of dealing with this subject.

The plain fact of the matter is that national societies in this country, with the exception of Humane Information Services, have not employed animals slaughered by the Council for Livestock Protection, have no programs whatever leading to accomplishment of these programs, and have not employed animals in laboratories to travel the whole way to this country, although they could be hardly expected to have this information. Because the Council for Livestock Protection has received no financial grants from the United States, or to be able to offer any constructive programs in this category adapted to conditions here. But the publications of the Federation Humane Slaughter Association, and her name on the program were expected to a battle plan and propaganda, and satisfy the conferences who knew even less about fasting in the United States. But why all the war stories about these machines? What does it have to do with the current subject? Because the societies have almost nothing on their staff capable of dealing with this subject.

The plain fact of the matter is that national societies in this country, with the exception of Humane Information Services, have not employed animals slaughered by the Council for Livestock Protection, have no programs whatever leading to accomplishment of these programs, and have not employed animals in laboratories to travel the whole way to this country, although they could be hardly expected to have this information. Because the Council for Livestock Protection has received no financial grants from the United States, or to be able to offer any constructive programs in this category adapted to conditions here. But the publications of the Federation Humane Slaughter Association, and her name on the program were expected to a battle plan and propaganda, and satisfy the conferences who knew even less about fasting in the United States. But why all the war stories about these machines? What does it have to do with the current subject? Because the societies have almost nothing on their staff capable of dealing with this subject.

The plain fact of the matter is that national societies in this country, with the exception of Humane Information Services, have not employed animals slaughered by the Council for Livestock Protection, have no programs whatever leading to accomplishment of these programs, and have not employed animals in laboratories to travel the whole way to this country, although they could be hardly expected to have this information. Because the Council for Livestock Protection has received no financial grants from the United States, or to be able to offer any constructive programs in this category adapted to conditions here. But the publications of the Federation Humane Slaughter Association, and her name on the program were expected to a battle plan and propaganda, and satisfy the conferences who knew even less about fasting in the United States. But why all the war stories about these machines? What does it have to do with the current subject? Because the societies have almost nothing on their staff capable of dealing with this subject.

The plain fact of the matter is that national societies in this country, with the exception of Humane Information Services, have not employed animals slaughered by the Council for Livestock Protection, have no programs whatever leading to accomplishment of these programs, and have not employed animals in laboratories to travel the whole way to this country, although they could be hardly expected to have this information. Because the Council for Livestock Protection has received no financial grants from the United States, or to be able to offer any constructive programs in this category adapted to conditions here. But the publications of the Federation Humane Slaughter Association, and her name on the program were expected to a battle plan and propaganda, and satisfy the conferences who knew even less about fasting in the United States. But why all the war stories about these machines? What does it have to do with the current subject? Because the societies have almost nothing on their staff capable of dealing with this subject.

The plain fact of the matter is that national societies in this country, with the exception of Humane Information Services, have not employed animals slaughered by the Council for Livestock Protection, have no programs whatever leading to accomplishment of these programs, and have not employed animals in laboratories to travel the whole way to this country, although they could be hardly expected to have this information. Because the Council for Livestock Protection has received no financial grants from the United States, or to be able to offer any constructive programs in this category adapted to conditions here. But the publications of the Federation Humane Slaughter Association, and her name on the program were expected to a battle plan and propaganda, and satisfy the conferences who knew even less about fasting in the United States. But why all the war stories about these machines? What does it have to do with the current subject? Because the societies have almost nothing on their staff capable of dealing with this subject.

The plain fact of the matter is that national societies in this country, with the exception of Humane Information Services, have not employed animals slaughered by the Council for Livestock Protection, have no programs whatever leading to accomplishment of these programs, and have not employed animals in laboratories to travel the whole way to this country, although they could be hardly expected to have this information. Because the Council for Livestock Protection has received no financial grants from the United States, or to be able to offer any constructive programs in this category adapted to conditions here. But the publications of the Federation Humane Slaughter Association, and her name on the program were expected to a battle plan and propaganda, and satisfy the conferences who knew even less about fasting in the United States. But why all the war stories about these machines? What does it have to do with the current subject? Because the societies have almost nothing on their staff capable of dealing with this subject.

The plain fact of the matter is that national societies in this country, with the exception of Humane Information Services, have not employed animals slaughered by the Council for Livestock Protection, have no programs whatever leading to accomplishment of these programs, and have not employed animals in laboratories to travel the whole way to this country, although they could be hardly expected to have this information. Because the Council for Livestock Protection has received no financial grants from the United States, or to be able to offer any constructive programs in this category adapted to conditions here. But the publications of the Federation Humane Slaughter Association, and her name on the program were expected to a battle plan and propaganda, and satisfy the conferences who knew even less about fasting in the United States. But why all the war stories about these machines? What does it have to do with the current subject? Because the societies have almost nothing on their staff capable of dealing with this subject.

The plain fact of the matter is that national societies in this country, with the exception of Humane Information Services, have not employed animals slaughered by the Council for Livestock Protection, have no programs whatever leading to accomplishment of these programs, and have not employed animals in laboratories to travel the whole way to this country, although they could be hardly expected to have this information. Because the Council for Livestock Protection has received no financial grants from the United States, or to be able to offer any constructive programs in this category adapted to conditions here. But the publications of the Federation Humane Slaughter Association, and her name on the program were expected to a battle plan and propaganda, and satisfy the conferences who knew even less about fasting in the United States. But why all the war stories about these machines? What does it have to do with the current subject? Because the societies have almost nothing on their staff capable of dealing with this subject.

The plain fact of the matter is that national societies in this country, with the exception of Humane Information Services, have not employed animals slaughered by the Council for Livestock Protection, have no programs whatever leading to accomplishment of these programs, and have not employed animals in laboratories to travel the whole way to this country, although they could be hardly expected to have this information. Because the Council for Livestock Protection has received no financial grants from the United States, or to be able to offer any constructive programs in this category adapted to conditions here. But the publications of the Federation Humane Slaughter Association, and her name on the program were expected to a battle plan and propaganda, and satisfy the conferences who knew even less about fasting in the United States. But why all the war stories about these machines? What does it have to do with the current subject? Because the societies have almost nothing on their staff capable of dealing with this subject.

The plain fact of the matter is that national societies in this country, with the exception of Humane Information Services, have not employed animals slaughered by the Council for Livestock Protection, have no programs whatever leading to accomplishment of these programs, and have not employed animals in laboratories to travel the whole way to this country, although they could be hardly expected to have this information. Because the Council for Livestock Protection has received no financial grants from the United States, or to be able to offer any constructive programs in this category adapted to conditions here. But the publications of the Federation Humane Slaughter Association, and her name on the program were expected to a battle plan and propaganda, and satisfy the conferences who knew even less about fasting in the United States. But why all the war stories about these machines? What does it have to do with the current subject? Because the societies have almost nothing on their staff capable of dealing with this subject.

The plain fact of the matter is that national societies in this country, with the exception of Humane Information Services, have not employed animals slaughered by the Council for Livestock Protection, have no programs whatever leading to accomplishment of these programs, and have not employed animals in laboratories to travel the whole way to this country, although they could be hardly expected to have this information. Because the Council for Livestock Protection has received no financial grants from the United States, or to be able to offer any constructive programs in this category adapted to conditions here. But the publications of the Federation Humane Slaughter Association, and her name on the program were expected to a battle plan and propaganda, and satisfy the conferences who knew even less about fasting in the United States. But why all the war stories about these machines? What does it have to do with the current subject? Because the societies have almost nothing on their staff capable of dealing with this subject.

The plain fact of the matter is that national societies in this country, with the exception of Humane Information Services, have not employed animals slaughered by the Council for Livestock Protection, have no programs whatever leading to accomplishment of these programs, and have not employed animals in laboratories to travel the whole way to this country, although they could be hardly expected to have this information. Because the Council for Livestock Protection has received no financial grants from the United States, or to be able to offer any constructive programs in this category adapted to conditions here. But the publications of the Federation Humane Slaughter Association, and her name on the program were expected to a battle plan and propaganda, and satisfy the conferences who knew even less about fasting in the United States. But why all the war stories about these machines? What does it have to do with the current subject? Because the societies have almost nothing on their staff capable of dealing with this subject.
PERMITS FOR PET ANIMAL OWNERS VERSUS LICENSES FOR INDIVIDUAL ANIMALS

Report on the National Conference on Dog and Cat Control
Denver, February 3-5, 1976

All around the country there is renewed interest in pet animal control measures and considerable support underlying this interest by mayors, city councilmen, county commissioners and administrative officials is pet animals. These complaints partly represent protests over the depredations of roaming dogs and cats against private property, and their acts of both commission and omission (excuse the word, it is much in vogue nowadays) while in public places. Other complaints also are on the side of the animals, protesting residential building rules against the keeping of pets, failure to pick up stray, inadequate or inhumane shelter or pound facilities, and failure to institute birth control measures to control the burgeoning pet population.

Both a result and a contributory cause of this interest in pet animal control measures was "The Workshop on Pet Animal Control," held in Chicago in May of 1974, and the follow-up conference entitled "The National Conference on Dog and Cat Control," in Denver in February, 1976. Both conferences were sponsored and funded by the American Humane Association, the American Veterinary Medical Association, the Humane Society of the United States, and the Pet Food Institute. Dr. Thomas was invited to both conferences, and reported on the first one in our Report No. 28 (June, 1974). This article will comment on some impressions from this Denver conference.

Any conference supported by organizations with such divergent views as those involved in this conference, and the other organizations represented by invitees, is likely to give birth to little that is highly significant. One of the primary objectives of both conferences was to avoid rocking the boat. Regardless, any group of people placed in a room for a few hours and expected to come up with a fairly analytical report and significant recommendations on a controversial and complex subject is unlikely to satisfy anyone, even under the best of circumstances. There is great value in merely exchanging views, and a conference was worth every bit of its cost to the sponsoring organizations and those who attended.

The conferences were assigned to nine workshops dealing with "Values and Limitations of Ownership," "Public Health and Environmental Aspects," "Regulation of Laws," "Enforcement and Prosecution," "Animal Control Officers Training," "Reproductive Control," "Surgical Neutering Programs," "Production and Supply," and "Education." These sessions dealt with regulations and laws, and surgical neutering programs. However, by questioning participants in the workshop on chemical and physical control, we were able to obtain the latest information in this field.

REPRODUCTION CONTROL

Some of the research in the field of chemical reproduction control still is under heavy wraps, and Doc is not at liberty to discuss the details and aspects of these developments (so please don't write and ask!). Suffice to say that we are greatly encouraged by some of them, and hope that in another year or two we will be able to give you some highly significant news.

The session on surgical neutering programs was the most potentially explosive one. It was chaired by Dr. Donald Price, executive vice-president of the AVMA, who obviously was not about to let the workshop come up with any heavy endorsement of low-cost spay and neuter clinics! A very effective and forlorn-sounding veterinarian's viewpoint was Dr. Robert Slobody, a private-practice veterinarian from Richmond this year. Dr. Donald Mahan, executive director of the Southern California Veterinary Medical Association, Pico Rivera, California, gave a critical account of spay clinic experience in Southern California. The case for spay clinics was ably presented by Dr. Theodore J. Sorich, research coordinator, Citizens for Low Cost Spay and Neuter Clinics, Forest City, California. Advocates of these clinics find some good supporting evidence in his paper. When the general report of the conference is presented to Humane Information Services, a summary of these papers and of the conference conclusions about PET ANIMAL CONTROL MEASURES AND ORDINANCES

As readers of our Report to Humanitarians No. 29 (September, 1974) know, after extensive and intensive analysis of the pet population explosion and measures designed to deal with this problem, Humane Information Services has reached the definite conclusion that the most effective simple way to deal with this problem is a pet control ordinance. The purpose of this report was to acquaint animal control officers with the elements of such a potential animal control ordinance. In Report No. 29 we presented a complete ordinance to fulfill this need.

Objections to the proposed ordinance received by us since its publication are likely that it is "inadequate," and that no municipality or county could be persuaded to pass it. That surely will be true if humanitarians admit defeat before starting to fight, which would be a tragedy.

PERMIT VERSUS LICENSES

The heart of the HSUS proposed ordinance is: (1) issuing permits for individual people, pet shops and others such as breeders to own pet animals, rather than licenses for individual animals. These permits would be independent of other local government divisions. As readers of our Report to Humanitarians No. 35 - March, 1976 are aware, we will present in Report to Humanitarians No. 35 - March, 1976 - Page 5
FURBEARING ANIMALS

If you will read the humane literature dealing with fur-bearing animals and trapping, you will see that quite a bit of it dates back many years. Even before these protests were made in the United States, British and Continental animal lovers had been propagandizing against trapping. Yet, the slaughter in those countries, London remains the world capital of the fur industry. Canada is no exception in this regard. Canada is a leading industry in North America, and historians trace many important developments in the humane movement to Canada. Such developments as the one in the case of the公里 (公里) trap are generally credited to the efforts of the SAFW, a leading company that has been actively involved in the humane movement, because it would not elicit contributions as a future campaign against the fur trade, a number of humane societies have been seeking for so long.

This also calls for research in order to achieve with more authentic biological supportive evidence as some of the killer traps, it does not require much faith in their eventual replacement by NAHL, proving the contention of the humane society for the society to undertake a much thankless task. Productions can be much more easily elicited by continuing to prove the cruelty of trapping such as the one sponsored by the Society for Animal Protective Legislation, Canadian humane societies already have done a great deal of research designed to prove the cruelty of trapping known as the "killer" trap. But none of these has been found to be sufficiently humane, dependable, inexpensive and practical to justify much faith in their eventual replacement of the leghold.

A modification of the trap has been suggested by wildlife organizations in the United States. This features "offset" jaws which hold the leg of the animal, but do not exert sufficient pressure to injure it. These have never been tamed and used as pets, but their objection is easily overcome by the industry, putting in the leg in most cases. To further prevent injury, the jaws of the trap would be covered by a thin layer of material; ordinary doorstop can be wound around the jaws of the trap for this purpose, cheaply and rather easily. The very design of this trap is such that such a ban would be impossible to do it without injury. (2) The greatest cruelty of the traps comes from the fact that it does not involve the killing of the animal; it is the attempts of the animal to gain release by gnawing off its own leg, which often results in the freezing dead from thirst, starvation and freezing.

There are two objections to this trap: (1) Although it is impossible to manufacture it as some of the killer traps, it does involve trouble and some expense for servicing the trap. (2) The greatest cruelty of the traps comes from the fact that it does not involve the killing of the animal; it is the attempts of the animal to gain release by gnawing off its own leg, which often results in the freezing dead from thirst, starvation and freezing.

The latter objections to the ordinary leghold trap apply to the "Tender Trap" as well. But they could be eliminated by one piece of the jaws of the trap a capsule containing a sufficient quantity of some poison to cause instant death. Development of such a capsule would help to obtain a ban on the fur trade of a livelihood. Humanitarian, of course, would still be opposed to trapping as they are to hunting, but the traps that cause such terrible suffering of the trapped animals would be mostly eliminated. The "Tender Trap" would become a more efficient humane killing tool. Several humane societies have been seeking for so long.

Rats and Mouse Poisons

What people do to rats and mice puts in the humane movement, because it would not elicit contributions as a future campaign against the fur trade, a number of humane societies have been seeking for so long.

FUR BEARING ANIMALS

One of our members in the United States. This features "offset" jaws which hold the leg of the animal, but do not exert sufficient pressure to injure it. These have never been tamed and used as pets, but their objection is easily overcome by the industry, putting in the leg in most cases. To further prevent injury, the jaws of the trap would be covered by a thin layer of material; ordinary doorstop can be wound around the jaws of the trap for this purpose, cheaply and rather easily. The very design of this trap is such that such a ban would be impossible to do it without injury. (2) The greatest cruelty of the traps comes from the fact that it does not involve the killing of the animal; it is the attempts of the animal to gain release by gnawing off its own leg, which often results in the freezing dead from thirst, starvation and freezing.

There are two objections to this trap: (1) Although it is impossible to manufacture it as some of the killer traps, it does involve trouble and some expense for servicing the trap. (2) The greatest cruelty of the traps comes from the fact that it does not involve the killing of the animal; it is the attempts of the animal to gain release by gnawing off its own leg, which often results in the freezing dead from thirst, starvation and freezing.

The latter objections to the ordinary leghold trap apply to the "Tender Trap" as well. But they could be eliminated by one piece of the jaws of the trap a capsule containing a sufficient quantity of some poison to cause instant death. Development of such a capsule would help to obtain a ban on the fur trade of a livelihood. Humanitarian, of course, would still be opposed to trapping as they are to hunting, but the traps that cause such terrible suffering of the trapped animals would be mostly eliminated. The "Tender Trap" would become a more efficient humane killing tool. Several humane societies have been seeking for so long.

Rats and Mouse Poisons

What people do to rats and mice puts in the humane movement, because it would not elicit contributions as a future campaign against the fur trade, a number of humane societies have been seeking for so long.

FUR BEARING ANIMALS

One of our members in the United States. This features "offset" jaws which hold the leg of the animal, but do not exert sufficient pressure to injure it. These have never been tamed and used as pets, but their objection is easily overcome by the industry, putting in the leg in most cases. To further prevent injury, the jaws of the trap would be covered by a thin layer of material; ordinary doorstop can be wound around the jaws of the trap for this purpose, cheaply and rather easily. The very design of this trap is such that such a ban would be impossible to do it without injury. (2) The greatest cruelty of the traps comes from the fact that it does not involve the killing of the animal; it is the attempts of the animal to gain release by gnawing off its own leg, which often results in the freezing dead from thirst, starvation and freezing.

There are two objections to this trap: (1) Although it is impossible to manufacture it as some of the killer traps, it does involve trouble and some expense for servicing the trap. (2) The greatest cruelty of the traps comes from the fact that it does not involve the killing of the animal; it is the attempts of the animal to gain release by gnawing off its own leg, which often results in the freezing dead from thirst, starvation and freezing.

The latter objections to the ordinary leghold trap apply to the "Tender Trap" as well. But they could be eliminated by one piece of the jaws of the trap a capsule containing a sufficient quantity of some poison to cause instant death. Development of such a capsule would help to obtain a ban on the fur trade of a livelihood. Humanitarian, of course, would still be opposed to trapping as they are to hunting, but the traps that cause such terrible suffering of the trapped animals would be mostly eliminated. The "Tender Trap" would become a more efficient humane killing tool. Several humane societies have been seeking for so long.

Rats and Mouse Poisons

What people do to rats and mice puts in the humane movement, because it would not elicit contributions as a future campaign against the fur trade, a number of humane societies have been seeking for so long.

FUR BEARING ANIMALS

One of our members in the United States. This features "offset" jaws which hold the leg of the animal, but do not exert sufficient pressure to injure it. These have never been tamed and used as pets, but their objection is easily overcome by the industry, putting in the leg in most cases. To further prevent injury, the jaws of the trap would be covered by a thin layer of material; ordinary doorstop can be wound around the jaws of the trap for this purpose, cheaply and rather easily. The very design of this trap is such that such a ban would be impossible to do it without injury. (2) The greatest cruelty of the traps comes from the fact that it does not involve the killing of the animal; it is the attempts of the animal to gain release by gnawing off its own leg, which often results in the freezing dead from thirst, starvation and freezing.

There are two objections to this trap: (1) Although it is impossible to manufacture it as some of the killer traps, it does involve trouble and some expense for servicing the trap. (2) The greatest cruelty of the traps comes from the fact that it does not involve the killing of the animal; it is the attempts of the animal to gain release by gnawing off its own leg, which often results in the freezing dead from thirst, starvation and freezing.

The latter objections to the ordinary leghold trap apply to the "Tender Trap" as well. But they could be eliminated by one piece of the jaws of the trap a capsule containing a sufficient quantity of some poison to cause instant death. Development of such a capsule would help to obtain a ban on the fur trade of a livelihood. Humanitarian, of course, would still be opposed to trapping as they are to hunting, but the traps that cause such terrible suffering of the trapped animals would be mostly eliminated. The "Tender Trap" would become a more efficient humane killing tool. Several humane societies have been seeking for so long.

Rats and Mouse Poisons

What people do to rats and mice puts in the humane movement, because it would not elicit contributions as a future campaign against the fur trade, a number of humane societies have been seeking for so long.

FUR BEARING ANIMALS

One of our members in the United States. This features "offset" jaws which hold the leg of the animal, but do not exert sufficient pressure to injure it. These have never been tamed and used as pets, but their objection is easily overcome by the industry, putting in the leg in most cases. To further prevent injury, the jaws of the trap would be covered by a thin layer of material; ordinary doorstop can be wound around the jaws of the trap for this purpose, cheaply and rather easily. The very design of this trap is such that such a ban would be impossible to do it without injury. (2) The greatest cruelty of the traps comes from the fact that it does not involve the killing of the animal; it is the attempts of the animal to gain release by gnawing off its own leg, which often results in the freezing dead from thirst, starvation and freezing.

There are two objections to this trap: (1) Although it is impossible to manufacture it as some of the killer traps, it does involve trouble and some expense for servicing the trap. (2) The greatest cruelty of the traps comes from the fact that it does not involve the killing of the animal; it is the attempts of the animal to gain release by gnawing off its own leg, which often results in the freezing dead from thirst, starvation and freezing.

The latter objections to the ordinary leghold trap apply to the "Tender Trap" as well. But they could be eliminated by one piece of the jaws of the trap a capsule containing a sufficient quantity of some poison to cause instant death. Development of such a capsule would help to obtain a ban on the fur trade of a livelihood. Humanitarian, of course, would still be opposed to trapping as they are to hunting, but the traps that cause such terrible suffering of the trapped animals would be mostly eliminated. The "Tender Trap" would become a more efficient humane killing tool. Several humane societies have been seeking for so long.
RIPOFF — FROM PAGE 6
control!
So, following the scent of the contributor rather than the solution of a major humane problem, the humane movement in this nation has demonstrated why there has been so little progress in stopping the infliction of suffering on animals.

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE
If Humane Information Services thought that the record of the next hundred years would be as good as for the past hundred, we would be inclined to go on and leave the membership and contributions to others. There is a certain amount of fun and feeling of accomplishment in merely being active in the humane movement, but there are other ways of enjoying life with less wear and tear on the nervous system.

In contrast, we work because we see some few signs of a change in the basic conditions that have been responsible for the lack of accomplishment in the past.

First, we encounter more and more individual humanitarians who are greeting the day with the hope that the month of March is a harbinger of the humane movement with a jaundiced eye. They are reading our reports and thinking, and lending more of their support and contributions to constructive programs, so that the number of subscribers to the magazine approximately 17,000 humanitarians on our mailing list, whose names we received from others, like yourself.

In previous years, we have received many encouraging letters indicating that people constituting the backbone of the humane movement are beginning to see the light.

Secondly, there are signs that a few other humane societies are sincerely looking into the possibility of changing the way they do business, and that they put greater accomplishment at least on a par with growth of memberships.

Among these is the Humane Society of the United States, with which we maintain friendly but critical relations. There are approximately 17,000 humanitarians on our mailing list, whose names we received from other organizations, and we do not hesitate to call a spade a spade. And the Animal Welfare Institute and its sister society, the Society for Humane Legislation, have just as much and for the same reason, which are given by the relatively high percentage of contributors to the humane movement who are giving us their support.

If you are one of these, you will agree that there is a lot more than a mere difference of opinion. There is a lot more, which we are unable to name names, we get let down, and we are unable to name names.

And for the record, we are not suggesting that any of them are acting in any way other than we are acting in the same way.

LETTERS ASKING US TO NAME NAMES

Since publishing the first in our series of articles on ripoffs we have received many letters from readers expressing their opinion of specific societies, or to suggest the names of several societies we consider to be worthy of criticism.

Even after explaining the reasons why we are unable to name names, we get letters like the one below, which we don't help but feel that you owe it to your readers and contributors to give them some constructive suggestions and to show you, in making future contributions. Are there any humane organizations that merit approval— which ones are they? I'd appreciate an answer.

We sincerely wish we could help these people by naming names. That, as we said before, could get us embroiled in lawsuits. If there is any humane society that should avoid like poison, it is expensive and generally futile lawsuits. One society that has been well reported by the newspapers is already said to be threatening lawsuits against the publication involved.

This, however, is not the only or even the main reason why we refuse to name names.

The main one is that we do not wish to unfair judgment. A statement that we think Society X is one of the best of the national societies might imply that Society Y or Z is no good.

Still another reason is that any mention of names introduces the notion that it is all good or all bad, when such is not the case. If we thought that any national or general-purpose humane society was not guilty in significant degree of the tendencies analyzed in this article, we would never have organized Humane Information Services.

There are other ways of enjoying life than to buy a new washing machine. You have Humane Information Services as a visible, growing national organization that meets all of the criteria upon which we would base our judgments of any other societies.

So, if you want our opinion of other national societies, just compare their publications with those of HIS, and you will be able to tell which are the societies which meet the criteria he considered most important.

So help us God, we have had similar ideas, to form Humane Information Services. All of his permissible years, the SIMS' will his very substantial estate to provide for the employment of a competent successor.

That should not be taken to imply that no other societies are worthy of support. A little support is better than none.

But why settle for a little, when you can get so much by giving to Humane Information Services? That is a biased judgment, good or bad. But it would be any judgment we could give you of other specific societies. In the last analysis, it is a matter of conscience, whose cause you are most willing to accept.

CONFERENCE — FROM PAGE 5

Under the permit system, the pet shop would be responsible for each animal so acquired, raising its cost by a fee for release and go on as before. But this system can, plus a lot more.

(4) The licensing of cats now is advocated by many of those seeking new ordinances. It is impractical and dangerous to cats wear collars or license tags, so enforcement of the license laws would be impossible.

(5) The real trouble with animal control ordinances is that they have not been so much with the specific provisions attaching to the licensed animals, but with enforcement of the laws. The problem of how to deal with the neighborhoods that have their dogs inoculated, purchase licenses and suitable collars, and if the roaming pet is caught pay the fee for release and go on as before. But in the neighborhoods where the most indiscriminate breeding takes place, and the dogs are free to roam and live frequently is ignored. By simply requiring all pet owners to make the declaration, failure to do so to be an automatic violation of the law, and a more unified front. We don't have to agree on everything to work together on many things.

(6) By eliminating many deadbeats and making the system more easily accountable, the permit system would be far greater than those from any straight licensing system. These revenues should not go into the general fund, but should be payable for paying the expense of a greatly improved pet animal control system and shelter or pound fund.

(7) The threat of revocation of the pet ownership permit in case of failure of the owner to keep the dog and inoculate the covered animals can also be used to make the owner comply with regulations of the Control Board specifying required housing, care and other conditions for the pet.

That time would come. That time would come. That time would come.
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

In recent months we have received an unusual number of really excellent letters to the editor, and wish we had room for all of them. In the interest of space, we are unfortunately able to print only a small fraction of them. However, we read every single one, and we determined to make this fourth article the last one on that subject for a long time! It is sufficiently important to justify writing in full length some of the most determined advocates of decency, like the following:

WANTS "CONDENSATION"

"I always read your reports with great interest, being a lifelong animal lover. If I were not, however, I doubt that I would have thought of your letter writing...how many of your fine reports are discarded or skimmed through briefly because of the apparent non-sense material? Wouldn't you get through to more people if you condensed your articles and included some pictures? Also, more people would read by the thousand words which might well be heed."—Donald H. Zarr, Hulmeville, Pennsylvania.

REPLY:

Sure, a condensed article which is too incomplete to give even a partial picture of a subject would be read by more people—but what good would it do? We would rather have a few who read and understand than a thousand who think they do. The task of getting the facts to where the public can understand is what this article is in this issue. As for pictures—they convey little or no understanding of the subject. For example, a picture of a leghold trap does not tell the reader anything at all about the condition of the captured animal. Nor does it actually what humane societies have been doing for a hundred years of little progress, as explained in the lead article. Sure, that kind of information should be presented, but these should be channelled into constructive and effective humane programs, nothing happens except more contributions for the humane society.

As a subscriber to the Digest, I am not designed for the one newspaper reader, but for those who already are committed to the humane treatment of animals and need guidance in making their efforts productive. It is directed at more sophisticated readers who want to learn, not just have their emotions stimulated. And

we note that you read our reports "with great interest." Do you also find "great interest" in the brief, "passport" type of publication so commonly found in the humane literature?

PLEASE RUSH!

"On January 15 I asked you to RUSH...25 copies of 'Let Us Live,' (and) enclosed my check...Nearly four weeks have passed and yet I have not received them. Please let me hear from your Service without further delay."—Ms. Elise Fullenlove, New Albany, Indiana.

REPLY:

Your last letter was not received until January 21. Three days later we mailed you the copies ordered. Evidently you are not very familiar with the postal service! When your second letters were received, we immediately mailed you another package by first-class mail.

Humane Information Services is not a commercial organization selling something, from which you can expect to receive one-day service. We do not know what postal regulations for mailing costs are included. We also have a lot of other things to do, some of which are even more important than mailing pamphlets! Besides, for instance, we have to say to you that we are way behind in replying to many important communications that deserve a prompt reply, although we work weekend many long evenings without pay. All of this has been explained in past issues of report to Humanitarians. If our members insist on prompt answers to orders for printed materials, and even to letters, they will have to provide us with more funds to pay additional staff. We are very afraid that policies which do not go over big with Emily, our secretory-treasurer, who is carrying a back-breaking load and at least should be able to expect an easy time from Congress, will result in our doing away with the Digest.

To our correspondents, we offer our sincere regrets for delays. If you have a deadline to meet, let us know. Even then we can be late in replying. We are not postcard men.

Thank you for your patience and consideration.

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

...will be remembered in the June issue.

RECENT HUMANE LEGISLATION DEVELOPMENTS

When some of the supporters of Humane Information Services (HIS) several years ago incorporated the National Association for Humane Legislation (NAHL) as an entirely separate non-profit, not tax-exempt organization to deal with humane legislation, it was not something done for their own amusement. The Internal Revenue Service had been petitioning HIS for a determination of its tax-exempt status, and legislative activities of tax-exempt societies. HIS was at an obvious disadvantage in this regard. With a relatively small income and budget, any substantial expenditure on legislation might have been a "substantial" part of its activities. So, the founders of NAHL went to a lot of trouble and some expense to form that organization, finding its members who responded so generously to its appeal.

Supporting dog and cockfighting, which present on the day this bill came up for and even the entire section on animal fighting, may be omitted from the final version, unless letters from NAHL members and others persuade the House conference to accept the House version of the bill.

Also, members of the Agriculture Committee have told NAHL that they already have to look to that which we can expect to do anything about in a short period of time.

The Senate had already passed a similar bill but not including any section dealing with animal fighting. The House passed the Senate bill after first amending it to include its various provisions in the "animal fighting" chapter of the bill. So, now the bill goes to a conference committee of the House and the Senate, which will decide what to keep and what to drop, leaving the way open for revision, and possibly even the entire section on animal fighting, may be omitted from the final version, unless letters from NAHL and others persuade the conference committee to accept the House version of the bill.

The HUMANE SLAUGHTER BILL

Congress, and particularly the Agriculture Committee of the House, has on its agenda a considerable number of complex bills that are of major importance to the humane legislation, but not as much importance as the Humane Legislation.

It may be that with this load of bills in the house, the humane legislation will not emerge in this election year, and the short time remaining for actual consideration of legislation, Congress will not get around to it. However, members of the Agriculture Committee have told NAHL that they already have made a decision that animal fighting will be held over at least in the 95th Congress. NAHL finds this a significantly changed attitude resulting from the flood of letters generated by its most recent Digest, and it now can entertain hopes that the bill may emerge in this session of Congress. However, NAHL feels it still needs a lot more letters from NAHL members and other humane legislators that are of major importance in any single session of Congress. However, NAHL feels it still needs a lot more letters from NAHL members and other humane legislators that are of major importance in any single session of Congress.